

From: Linda Ayers
To: Ms. Renata B. Heese
Date: 1/16/02 6:46am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement (Support)

Dear Ms. Heese:

I am writing in support of the recent settlement of the long-running antitrust lawsuit between the U.S. Department of Justice, state attorneys general and Microsoft Corporation. Though I applaud the nine state attorneys general that decided to follow the federal government's lead and settle the case, I am thoroughly disappointed that remaining state attorneys general and the District of Columbia have decided to further pursue this baseless case.

The settlement is fair to all. It will allow Microsoft's competitors to use Microsoft's Windows operating system to incorporate their software programs and will give consumers more services and products to choose from.

Continuation of the case threatens to prolong the 8-month old recession, as well as increase the severity of the technology sector's 18-month decline. In this time of economic uncertainty, we need businesses that stimulate demand for other products throughout their industry to get back to work, not encounter new obstacles to growth. It is time to put an end to this lawsuit and get back to the business of strengthening our economy

Once again, I thank you for your decision to settle this unfortunate lawsuit against a successful and innovative company.

Respectfully,

Linda Ayers
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Decatur, AL 35603-3165

CC:
Citizens for a Sound Economy